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for, that consumption and value are the fundamental ideas of economics and that economics include the whole field of social activity in which consumption is the fundamental fact. Economics would become not merely an aid to finance, but its essence.

In discussing the relation of finance to history he brings out the need for comparative study. He adopts both the "deductive" and the "inductive" methods of research. In short, he is a true eclectic. He belongs strictly to no single school.

What he says suggests the question whether history can be properly called a distinct science. May not history be, after all, in one sense a *method*, and in another sense a *field of inquiry*, belonging in both senses to all sciences, whether physical or social? Diderot has finely said that to every science there are three divisions—the historical, the theoretical and the practical; the first dealing with past systems, the second with existing facts, the third being the conscious attempt to direct the future.

It is not intended by this review to leave the impression that the book is faultless. Many points of detail might be controverted. But we need just such a book in the main as Professor Bastable has given us and we welcome it with enthusiasm. It is what it aims to be, a scientific text book. It is to be hoped that it will prove the inspiration of other works, in which scientific research shall be the avowed object.

SIDNEY SHERWOOD.

Johns Hopkins University.

THE AMERICAN CITIZEN. By CHARLES F. DOLE. Pp. xvi. and 320. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. 1891.

In a democratic republic the standard of citizenship is a matter of paramount political importance. What the average citizen feels compelled to do politically, his sense of public responsibility—in a word, the civic habits of the *demos* are of even greater importance than the machinery

of government or the conditions of representation. They give life to constitutional forms and determine the real character of the republic.

Of greatest importance, perhaps, is the degree of liberty and freedom common in the community, the power of political choice and the extent to which it is exercised, the desire, the opportunity, the justification for forming new political habits and changing the standard of civic life. An author is thus doing the cause of good government a great service who writes the book that may with propriety be dedicated "to AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP after the type of Washington, the Adamses, and Lincoln, noble, devoted, disinterested, magnanimous, fearless, reverent," and who writes it in such a style that it will prove effective in the hands of those who are just forming or who are in a condition to reform their habits as citizens.

In these days of ballot reform and civil service reform, of tariff reform and temperance reform, a text is needed which presents fundamental principles in a light to be understood by all, which gives impartially two views of a doubtful question, which is short enough to attract all and yet not so brief as seriously to mislead any, which comprehends the whole field of civic duty and responsibility but does not leave the impression of completeness and finality. Such a book is Mr. Dole's "American Citizen." It is written particularly for those young people who are students and who cannot pursue an extended college course in economics and politics; who must become citizens and are anxious to act intelligently in regard to the various problems of the day. The interest of the average reader is secured in an introductory chapter concerning the beginnings of citizenship at home, in the school-room, on the playground. In an entertaining manner the author traces the development from savage anarchy through organized barbarism to the voluntary co-operation of civilized life and emphasizes the principles which bind men together in society—respect for others, obedience to justly constituted authority, mutual responsi-

bility. From these he draws in the succeeding parts the political, the economic, the social, the international *duties* of citizens. Covering a wide field the book is necessarily somewhat fragmentary and at times disconnected. It is not clear, for instance, why a brief disquisition on the school system (Chapter xvii.) should be sandwiched in between a chapter on tariff reform and one on civil service reform. The political economy (Part III.) is of that severely simple type which draws its illustrations from the primitive conditions of society and is content with lisping the old formula of "the law of supply and demand," "which," the author adds, "requires to be controlled and supplemented by friendliness" (p. 189).

Certain of the practical conclusions are also so colorless as to be of little value. "It would not be fair for a teacher who was supported by all the people to try to persuade the children of Democrats to become Republicans" (p. 105). "Although it is the general duty of the citizen to vote, there may be cases in which one cannot conscientiously vote" (p. 140). The latter conclusion must be consoling to the third of the voters in New England, who constitutionally refrain from exercising the right of suffrage.

When, however, the author comes to the discussion of the citizen's duties to his government (Chapter xxii.) and, in Part IV., to a consideration of social rights and duties, or, the duties of men as they live together in society, he is neither severely simple in method, nor halting in his conclusions. A high purpose, a strong conviction, deep thought, are everywhere evident. The following quotations are characteristic: "It is a grave question, whether our laws do not work more harm than good through our use of jails and prisons. It is as if we sent cases of measles, scarlet fever, and small-pox, all to the same hospital, and treated them alike."

"The fact is, that the death penalty has never prevented bad or hot-tempered men from committing murder, neither has it made careless men feel the sacredness of human life."

"It was found, that the more money was given to the poor, the poorer they became." "The motto of modern charity is: '*Not alms, but a friend.*'"

"True men gladly accept the same standard of purity for men and women."

The book is one every citizen, earnest for the welfare of the country, should read, ponder and appropriate.

ARTHUR BURNHAM WOODFORD.

College of Social Economics.

THE FEDERAL POWER OVER COMMERCE AND ITS EFFECT ON STATE ACTION. By WILLIAM DRAPER LEWIS, Ph. D., Member of the Philadelphia Bar. Pp. 145. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. 1892.

Our system of government, in respect to the relation between its different departments, is one of checks and balances. The same is true of the relation existing between the States and the Federal Government; and the same check that is competent to mark the bounds of departmental authority is competent also to mark the boundary between State and Federal action. This check is to be found in the Federal Supreme Court. It is in the power conferred upon this court by the Constitution that harmony is guaranteed and justice insured to both State and national governments.

It was the implied intention of those who framed the Constitution that the Supreme Court should interpret that fundamental law in the light of present existing circumstances and conditions. They foresaw that, as the country developed, constitutional ideas would develop *pari passu*, that all the departments of government would be influenced by the power of current opinion, and that whatever stage of advancement national ideas should reach, the Supreme Court would still remain the champion of such ideas, and its opinions still be the crystallized exponent of constitutional thought.